Dear Folks —

Nice to have Alma's long letter.

Aug. 17 will be fine. Getting ready today to go camping. 3 couples going. Everything is wrong — Bob & Mark have cold / & or allergies. Roe told me to stop

worry about them,
Just 5 minutes ago
Wendy hit her head with
the swinging bar (on swings)
& now has a huge
swelling on her temple!
Wonder if we'll make
it. Got the small
trailer all rigged up - so
the 5 of us can sleep in
it. Want to get this
off so you will get the
money in time
more later.
Love, Essie

Wed. morning.

Dear Kirby & Alma

Just rated a hasty note to this envelope. Sorry to hear that you have been under the weather hope you are feeling O.K. by now.

I have been going strong these days no time to let down. I am now planning to take a day off on Friday and do my laundry and other things at home. (Banks etc) We have monthly meeting this Sat. so that takes half the day and evening.

Georgea goes to the hospital tonight for another operation, not

connected with the other something else. So she is really having a time.

Jessie has gone back to work at Douglas and drives back and forth from Pomona, they will be buying a house there I guess, probably the one up the street from the folks.

Alma will pick the first ripe tomato from the vine at the back door in a day or two.

Looking forward to seeing you soon and hope you take it easy coming home. Tell all hello for us.

Love
Marie

Will deposit on Fri.
oil check + others

Thurs 2 PM

KIRBY PAGE
POST OFFICE BOX 247
LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA

Hello Folks! —
It was good to get your letter saying you were back —
Gebhardts got here last night about 6 15 — They are in Whittier this afternoon —
Marie all tired out — Sleepy and Mrs T has been sick took X rays but no good stones — We have to take it easy for several weeks —
Irrigating again — Done some more digging yesterday & last night and today can hardly walk — My back — Its bad —

over

Only been 3 deposits. So
far —
Marie Wice have to do.
Washing now for sometime too
Pete & Nellie back — they phoned
but haven't seen them —
Bill & Madge gone North
for Salmon fishing & Duck
& goose hunting —
Not much news, I don't get
off the place very often —
faucet in Kitchen got very bad
So had Mayer come fix it —
Write when you can — And tell
em all Hello in Texas for us —
More later Love
us ✓

Taken 1946

This is the sweet
lovely person I
see now when
I look at her.

---

with grateful
appreciation to
Kirby - Alma

Cman

KIRBY PAGE
POST OFFICE BOX 247
LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA

Friday AM

Darling:

Sherwood met me at train 3^30 PM from K. C.

The talk has started!

Both of them look and feel well.

Mrs Isaac the mother 92 yrs old is here.

Hot outside but OK within.

More later today

Much love to you and everybody

Kirby

P.S. Kay packed both of the copper bottom pans - so I'll send one back.

Jan 6 -

Dearest Almaco Kirby -

Good trip home.

Stayed overnight in Fresno with Gloria & Jerry - & had dinner previous to that in P'ville with Hackleman's.

Traffic light - the 4 lane hiway certainly helps! I was really great to have a few days at home before School started. We slept late etc &

weighted in at 14 lbs 3 oz !!!!
I'm smiling all the time now.
Barbie's cold is finally gone — & she & Wendy are having the most delightful time playing house with the new X mas toys.
Alma — your gift were terrific! They have to eat & drink out of the cups & dishes all the time!
You should see their home — can hardly maneuver — with all the little housekeeping equipment!
Kay has been going to town on the ceiling. The length from end of living room to Wendy's room is over half finished.
Finally talked Kay into seeing about a Bank loan — to pay off Nurse Bill. Hope to get an interview tomorrow.

felt well rested by Monday.
Jan 3rd — Kay's B'day we had a couple in for dinner & held forth on religion — art — poetry — ethics etc until 2:30 P.M. needless to say, Kay gave out around midnight or so!
Had Mark checked. His chest is fine — so he's off the Benadrill for a while. Has a cold tho' — so more medicine. This kid! I'll bet we've bought more medicine for him in the past 3 months than for all of us in the last 3 years!
On his 3rd month B'day he

We should be able to swing payments O.K – "sure hope they don't turn us down.

Sorry we were such poor guests this vacation. When the kids aren't up to par – neither am I, I'm afraid.

Hope you are O.K now Finley. But it's nice & peaceful now!

Do give our best to Perry & Marie. Is Marie over her "spell" too?

Doctor said this business was all over. They don't seem to know what to call it. He says they say a type of "flu" – but that it really isn't flu. When I told him about Mark – he said it was the same thing that was going around here & not the bad type of infant diarrhea.

Our love to you all –

Kay & Epsie

January 15, 1954

Dear Aunt Alma and Uncle Kirby,

I agree with you that mother should be shot for not writing but we're finally getting around to it.

We had a wonderful Christmas and we hope that you all did too. Daddy was on vacation most of the month so you can imagine what we did. Just lazed around the house an went to Houston. Unluckey me had to go to School until the Tuesday before Christmas.

I got a lot of nice things for Christmas but the thing that I valued most was a Royal portable typewriter with standard keyboard from mother and daddy.

I have been home from school ever since Tuesday with something or other. It seems like a bad case of sinus. This was a fine time to pick to get sick with the mid-term exams starting Wednesday of next week. I'm sure going to have to do some hard studying to make good grades.

Daddy was lifting some railroad ties last Thursday and wrenched his

back. He has been off work this week but is going to work tomorrow morning.

It has been bad weather here for the last week. I'm afraid to say it but the sun is out today. We're due for another norther tomorrow though.

Guess I'll start my battle with the Spanish book. Wish we could see you all. Write soon.

Love from
Mary Ja

Guess you are wondering why John was lifting railroad ties. To help fix a barn and lot. Cattle aren't so likely to die or stray if you can pen them up and care for them at critical moments. He went back to work today. I think I wrote you that we got the strayed cow back with a nice calf, for a price. Old Blacky had a heifer calf a couple of months ago. Now

if old Muley will go ahead and have a nice calf we might come out somewhere even on those high priced cows.

I've had lots of sinus and some diarrhea but nothing critical. Took some Terramycin but can't tell much difference so far. I'll ask the doctor about it again when we get over this little siege.

Hope you folks are all doing well. Beautiful to-day but we are due a real bad norther to-night. Hope it plays out before it gets here like some of the others.

Love —

Johnnie.

Love you as friends.

Love,

Phyllis —

Jan. 22/54

Dear Ruby & Alma —

Have I never even thanked you for the large package you sent over to the ATSC Staff party?! It was so thoughtful of you — We will put everything in it to

Thank You

use as soon as we move into
our new place in West Philadelphia.
We've had a time finding an
adequate house to rent, but we are
set for a time until we decide when
to buy.

We are staying with O's sister
temporarily & O. commutes by train
to the city — Hope you are all well.
We count ourselves fortunate to

Hey - do you want some of these pictures I had at Xmas time - of us & the kids etc.? Maybe you can pick ones out you want when you come up?

Feb 17

Dear Alma & Finley -

Thank you - for the $25.00. Much appreciated. It will go into the "fund" for buying material to cover the davenport.

Alma - I'll bet that's the longest letter you've ever written us! Finley you should have her read for you all the doctor's more often!

Kay says the chair is possible - tho' he'll have to do some re-designing & make possible some of the features you want. Cute chair - we had noticed it before.

We now have a walnut coffee table to go with the new sofa. Been married almost 10 years & this is our 1st coffee table! Very simple & beautiful grain - kite this in shape

- (more or less.)

We are heartsick about Neal's condition! Poor guy - he must be miserable.

The testimonial dinner for you Finley sound grand. I'll bet you are both looking forward to the trip - right? At least this time you'll have months in which to get in shape etc.

Say - would like to hear Sherwood's reaction to the chapter on his war stand.

We've all been unbelievably healthy since Xmas vacation. But Wendy now has sore throat & temp - tonsilitis as usual. But the Doc said last time the tonsils were in much better condition than when she was younger - & he thought they would not

have to be removed. That was good news. She's had fewer attacks each year — has had them since she was 9 months old! Mark is fat as usual & doing well - except a little fussy now with teething. So early! He cut one part of a lower 3 weeks ago & since then everything goes in the mouth and he sucks his thumb vigorously. Can hear him all over the house!

Art comes up this weekend & we are expecting John & Jean Otto sometime in the near future. No other week-end date set so far - so you pick one best for you. Either March or April fine with us: Possibly get better weather for travel in April. Lots of rain here now & plenty cold. Much love. Eyrie

March 15, 1954

Dear Mrs. Page,

I was surprised when Edgar came back from Los Angeles with a box of jams and preserves from you. When we couldn't get our car from the garage in time for the trip and I decided not to come with Edgar, I was concerned that you were expecting us, but he thought he could get in contact with you from Los Angeles, and I am glad he was successful. I have told you how much our boys like berry jam, but I make them go easy on it because it is the most expensive to buy in the stores, so now they will appreciate having such a nice "stockpile". Thanks.

It seems a long time since you were with us. Last weekend we had Bede Johnson with us. He stayed over Saturday and Sunday. He preached Sunday morning at our church and then we had a very lovely potluck lunch for all his friends from the old Central Church, of which he was pastor in 1905. One couple came that he had married 47 years ago. He is so vigorous in his actions and speech and ideas that it is hard to believe he is over 84. It was a different style of preaching from Edgar's but our people seemed to get a lot from him. Sunday evening he spoke on his pet theme - "The T.V.A. - An Approach to the Kingdom of God on Earth." We had a very poor crowd, although there were some youth there, but the main portion of the congregation was made up of his friends. But he wasn't too discouraged for he thought at least

seven or eight of his audience were stirred at least to find out more about the TVA and he felt that was a start.

We saw in the paper that Walt was on our San Diego station and it was one of the nights that we didn't have this particular program on and so we missed him. Also noticed that John Raitt was singing in an opera from New York.

I am saving jars for you and we will try to drop them off sometime when we take the car up to L. A. Edgar goes up again the 8th of April but will be going with another fellow. Our limes are still holding out. I have given some away but John is still enjoying a limeade when he comes home from school.

Let me say again that we did so enjoy having you with us in our home that brief time. Anytime you have to stay in San Diego please use our "back room". Bede liked his room here a lot - and said it was much better than hotel accomodations he has had. We are so happy that we have such a nice place for our guests.

I'll be looking forward to seeing you in the not too distant future,

Sincerely,

Helen Zimmerman

Mark is so active - we won't be able to keep him in Cradle much longer. He gets around all over the play pen & is up on hands & knees a lot now.

March 16th

Dear Finley, Alma -

Sorry we're so late with this. I've been out of commission. Bad cold & tooth pulled & the combination wasn't so good. All feeling fine now - but we were all exposed to mumps Saturday night. That's all we need just now!!

April 22-25 will be fine with us. Eager to have you. Have you heard from Asia Press yet? Didn't know you were doing your autobiography. That's good!

Enjoyed Milton Mayer's paragraph on you. He never lets exactness of fact stand in the way of artistic presentation of ideas. I love the way he writes & he just splitting hairs to take issue with some of his details. He drives some of the readers to distraction tho'.

time for her. She was so
excited! Alma - did Fay
ever have mumps? He
doesn't remember having
them. Seems to be a
difference of opinion among
doctors whether you can have
them more than once.
If he did - will you
let us know pronto? The doc
wants to give him a shot.
I'd suppose to either keep
him from getting them - or
if he does make it a light
case. Pretty rough on adult
males they say. Can cause
sterility. Much love
Eysie

Was your monthly check-up report good?

We spent the week-end with Helen & Gile Sigrist in Hayward. Gile may get a job here at the H.S. for next fall. The principal is really taking his time deciding & poor Gile is really sweating it out!

While there we saw John do "Taming of the Shrew" Did you watch it? We enjoyed it very much.

Sunday we all went to the Zoo at Golden Gate Park. Wendy was delighted — 1st

March 22

Dear Alma & Kinley -

Just got your letter - & thanks. Couldn't talk Kay into getting the shots, when he found out they were $5.00 a piece (!) & only 50% effective. So far nothing has happened, but we've got another 2 weeks to sweat out, yet. Sounds as tho you could use a little money.

You can consider this back installment on last June - when we defaulted — that is in case Kirby is reluctant to use it. Just got our income tax refund - which was generous this year - so we can spare this o.k.

We're looking for Walt & Mary next week - tho' we haven't had final confirmation from them. Will be wonderful to have them.

Much love,

K + Essie

We are Spending Easter
with my folks

Alma - can you bring some
variegated ivy for the fence again?

April 9

Going to build
some next door - so
I'm eager to get the
screen
started!

Dear Kirby & Alma —

Just a brief
note. Enjoyed Walt &
Mary. Thank you Alma
for making their visit
with us possible. Hope
you weren't too "pooped".

Major is Blind —
Walt & Mary have probably
told you about it — but he

Have read your 1st chapters of the Autobiography
Kirby - with great interest.

got much worse the day after they left. We have him up at the U of Calif at Davis in the Vet Clinic. The Doc here thinks possibility of cancer & nothing they could do for him without X-ray treatment equipment. We haven't heard yet how he is doing. Broke our hearts to see him so terrified & unhappy. Be looking forward to your visit April 22 — are you coming Thurs. or Friday & about when can we expect you?

Much luv. Eps & Al

BOBANDETTA VOGEL
1678 Casitas Avenue
Pasadena 3, California

Easter, 1954

Dear friends,

Easter finds us at the beginning of our bouts with childhood diseases. A few days ago, Janice, now six, broke out with a rash of "mosquito bites" that turned out to be chicken-pox. Naturally, both David, 4, and Jonathan, 1½, were exposed, so we'll be watching "mosquito bites" for the next 10 to 21 days. This particular outcropping caught us on a brief pre-Easter holiday at San Climente State Beach Park and brought us home again with a rush!

Since we've begun this much delayed annual letter with the children, let's continue with them. Little Jonathan is trying his best to keep up with the other two children. He can now climb to the top of anything that can be reached in two-foot steps. A few well-placed chairs and he is to the top of the stove, freezer, or kitchen sink; and the other day he proceeded to clear the top of the stove of shakers, mats, and matches. His insatiable desire to see and explore everything has caused us at least to try to keep him within bounds, taking "sound observations" of his movements about the house. But his favorite play place is "toutside" where he can dig in Daddy's vegetable garden, eat the ashes from the incinerator, or cut another tooth on a fat camilla bud or oversized rock. His adventures invariably leave him with a lovely mandarin mud mustach and tons of dirt and sand in the shoes. But he thrives on it. He chatters along with perfect inflection in almost totally incomprehendible syllables.

David is absorbed with his various cars, tow-truck, pay-loader and a Lyon moving van. When he's not engaged inaa parade with other neighborhood children with their trikes, wagons, scooters, etc, he loves to tell long and involved stories to anyone who will listen. He finds infrequent interest in the sedentary arts of coloring, reading, pasting and cutting which have always intrigued Janice.

Not that Janice is in the least sedentary! The one thing she wanted for her birthday was a pair of roller skates -- so she spent the two months preceding it praticing on the flat-cars of her wooden railway train. She has'nt completely accomplished the art but does very well along the drive where there are things to catch her when she falls. She began kindergarten last fall and considers herself quite grown up. She tells us how "kindergarteners" talk, walk, eat, and sleep, and assures David that the food set before them is a "healthy meal."

Janice is interested in radio and TV (although she sees only a little of the latter through the neighbors), and pays particular attention to what is said. Recently she entertained Etta with a tale of how she went to the store, picked up a can of MJB coffee and shook it. Since it didn't rattle, she knew it was the one to buy because it had more measures, "just as Chet Huntley (our favorite news commentator) said it does." Etta thought this a fine story for the coffee people and a way to praise our news commentator. Result: the MJB people sent us a pound of coffee!

The Society of Friends, and our own meeting, continues to be the center of our spiritual life and community. Both of us are serving on Overseers Committee, with Etta acting as chairman, and Bob heading the Finance Committee. We have been concerned with Pacific Yearly Meeting activity, and have assisted two new meetings in organizing this past year. It is thrilling to watch the slow but steady growth of these small fellowships.

Bob made one of his month-long tours last fall, beginning with the peace secretaries conference in Pennsylvania, a seminar at the United Nations, an all-too-brief visit with relatives and friends in and around Rochester, a short chat with Pop Berry in Pueblo, Colorado, concluding with visits to eight communities in New Mexico and Arizona.

As a needed and useful hobby, Bob has taken up woodworking, under the helpful guidance of fellow AFSC staffman, Bob Gray. It only took him seven months to complete a 13 drawer sewing cabinet for Etta. Monday night pottery classes have given Etta especially a good opportunity to get acquainted with the neighbors and add a few pieces to our set of dishes.

Following our fourth family camp last July, we loaded car and kids and set forth to spend a quiet two weeks in Carmel, California. We spent the two weeks, but they were far from quiet! When we had difficulty finding a reasonable place to rest, we moved on to the Santa Cruz mountains for Pacific Yearly Meeting. Then we found a quiet guest cabin in the Monterrey hills which served as a base for short excursions to the beach and fisherman's wharf.

This may seem to you a rather superficial account of the last sixteen months without some of the usual introspection that has been a part of these letters. Underneath all this outward activity, our hearts are restless. We rejoiced, as you did, in the end of hostilities in Korea. But with continuing tension abroad and the limitation of freedom at home, we are apprehensive of the future. The gradual involvement of the United States in Indo-China and these weapons of mass destruction, like the H-bomb; are these signs of peace ? We think not. We cannot be convinced that these terrible weapons can really prevent war; now that we have them, we are even threatening to use them.

We may not have seemingly "practical" answers to immediate problems, but we do believe that we will make little progress until we are more concerned about doing right ourselves than in rooting out the evil in others.

It is always good to hear from you. Do keep us on your list.

Cordially yours,

Bob and Etta

Etta, Bob, Janice, David,
and Jonathan Vogel

Kirby - do you want me to send the manuscript down?

Had nice day in mountains a week ago with Art. Went to Calaveras Big trees. May 9

Dear Alma & Kirby ——

How was the trip home — & the group meeting? So good to have you here. Maybe this summer you can stay longer. What with our trip to Rari et al - the time went much too fast & I find many things I had planned to tell about were forgotten at the time.

Major's sight has stayed

position - & also pulling up to stand - ~~taking~~ holding on to the top bar of play pen and crib. He tips the scales at 19 lbs 12 oz (7 months) - that's about 3 lbs more than Barbie weighed at same age!

His new parlor trick is to hold a little milk in his throat & gargle it!! Big sport. I took him in to the Doc to have his 1st shot last week. Wendy & Barb came along & sat in waiting room. Guess who suffered most?? Wendy. She had to go out to the car - because she didn't want to hear him cry. How about that! He only let out a little squawk.

The baseball team lost the Big game - so we are very sad. 2 ~~losses~~ losses, again!

about the same - until the past few days. Noticibly worse now & his leg is also weaker. Our M.D. here say he can get us the cortisone (sp?) in pill form fairly reasonably - so we plan to call the Vet at Davis & see what amount to give.

Wendy was so delighted with the white sweater Mame sent. It's a good fit & looks so cute. The doll I ordered finally arrived - so Wendy got her wish at last! She's walking on air. The doll is very beautiful & I believe I have convinced her that she shouldn't undo the blonde braids.

Mark is now sitting up by himself from a prone

~~[illegible]~~ so bad — But they were both to the same team - which has no losses - so that let's us out for the championship I fear. Kay is taking it very philosophically.

Kay & I went out together. (this hasn't happened in a long time, believe me!) to see a movie last Thursday night. Big news! Shakespeare's Julius Caesar. It was excellent. Cutting was skillfully done & diction very good.

Friday night we go to Fresno for the Relays. Basle & Wendy will stay here with the Appletons.

Having a little B'day party for the gals on Thursday.

Thanks for all the good things you brought. You must send me the receipe for marmelade. It's terrific! Sad part is the rest of the family like it too - so it's all gone now!

Much love. Epsie

May 22, 1954

Dear Friends,

To be in your home yesterday was for us a rare privilege, now a cherished memory.

Hope and I are very much in your debt for the influence of your

writings and your life, Dr. Page, and, now, that we are living in California, to have this closer relationship is wonderful indeed.

At a very difficult period in my life several years ago, it was your Living Prayerfully used with George Buttrick's Prayer and the Psalms which helped me more than I can let you know.

With warmest greetings and grateful hearts for the ministry of your lives, I am

Sincerely,

Bess Hughes Dickinson

June 2, 1954

Dear Aunt Alma and Uncle Kirby,

We haven't heard from you all in so long we began to wonder if you are still there.

School ended Monday and I made it out with A averages in all my subjects. There's not much to do when I finish the housework, but I'm glad that school is over.

We are going to the bay tomorrow and Friday. Daddy is taking his Memorial Day holiday today.

Is it hot out there? It's 92° here today. We're about to burn up.

I took typing this year and believe it or not I won some contests! The Lions Club always has tests in every subject each year and I won that one. The Commercial Club sponsored a contest and I won that also.

I came out second in the district meet but I fouled up in the regional meet.

My teacher was sick and couldn't go with me so I couldn't take the typewriter I was used to. You can imagine me as I was running all around the University of Houston trying to find a Royal typewriter. I

(3) finally found one about 10 minutes before the contest was to begin. Then I noticed that it wasn't like the one I had been using but it was too late to change then. So I didn't do too well in that contest.

The highest I have typed was around 54 words.

I have decided that I am going to become a secretary. I'm going to take secretarial training in school next year and then I'm going to Baylor.

We made homemade ice-cream yesterday afternoon and then we

had a slumber party
last night.

When will you all
be back this way? They're
anxious to see you.

Guess I better go
now. It's dinner time.

Write soon.

Love,

Mary Jo

June 5th

Dear Kirby & Alma —

Only one more week of School!

My folks will be here Monday night & then again for a few days following the Conference in Stockton which ends Sunday June 14th

We are happy that you are coming up! When will it be?

Do you have any idea when Walt & Mary are coming? We don't plan a trip south this summer - so are wondering how we'll get the cradle - buggy up the back. Mary probably wants to use the cradle as long as possible. A chance that Art could bring it up. He plans to make one trip by car - but I don't know when. Alma - can we plant the ivy

again ~~at~~ this time of year?
was so disappointed
that it died. Berries
are doing wonderfully.
Only 2 plants haven't
produced - & one even
has a blossom on it!!

Have numerous
buds on the nile lilies &
Wendy haunts them
each day - waiting for the
big event.

The shorts are
really cute. The smaller
pair fit Wendy perfectly.
Probably can shorten
the other O.K. Thanks
a million.

Got more corn in
& also cucumbers.

But up 29 qts of cherries & frozen some also. Delicious — Bings! — & how the kids go for them! We were planning big trip to Yosemite tomorrow but its raining & the gals have slight colds — so no go. Awfully sleepy — its late & I've been unsnarling the household accounts! Oh me — don't know if anyone who can louse up such things as we can!!

Plan to do more cherries & of course for you too. But I don't promise Jam this time!

Much love —

(over) K - Eyes & gals

Have had visit with Sam & Carol Tyson twice in 2 weeks! after not seeing them since before X mas.

Kay is boiling! He just discovered that he needs 2 units of Audio-visual in order to renew his general Secondary credential. We'll have to attend C.O.P summer school. Is ~~[illegible]~~ bowling constantly about it!!!!

Love to Walt & Mary & Perry & Marie

P.S. I forgot to thank Marie for the Beautiful Alice in Wonderland Bobbs. Please tell her that the gals love it. Such good illustrations not too involved script. Alice is Wendy's favorite story book character. June 10

Dear Almost Kirby —

Thanks for the cute T shirts for Wendy — good fit & colorful. Kay was happy to get the shorts & shirts too.

So you are going about like mad these days?!! Fine — but take it easy a little.

the summer & has ~~also~~ already been doing some work on it. This will help us say Insurance, Doctor, Dentist & Wood bills! Three cheers! Budget is yet to be approved - but if it goes thru without cuts, Kay should get $600 for the summer. Not bad, huh?

Mark's plugged tear duct has suddenly cleared up. Hope it stays that way.

Kay recently made swing

nice week-end with
Art. Good Track meet
here in Stockton.
Expecting my folks next
Monday for the following
week. Guess Marie has
told you about our new
Necchi sewing machine.
It's a honey. Better
come up & show me how,
Alma!
End of School
tomorrow. Kay has the
new recreation job for

for the gals. A big frame — attached to the roof of the house out by the water tank. Like so:

The short one is a bar affair.

My blood pressure goes way up listening to the Army-McCarthy fend on radio. That unspeakable man!!

Much love,

Epsie & all

July 14, 1954

Dear Aunt Alma and Uncle Kirby,

I thought that I would let you see how my typewriter works. I haven't typed since school was out.

How's the weather in California? We have been smothering here. The church will be air-conditioned in two more Sundays. I can hardly wait it is so hot.

I got my hair cut the other morning. It is so short it is pitiful but it surely is a lot cooler. Mrs. McCarty gave me a Lilt. There's just no sense in paying $10 every three months for a permanent and I have to have one just about that often.

We haven't been doing much. I've been running around as usual. I got up at five o'clock three mornings last week and one this week.

Guess I better go now. Write soon.

Love,

Mary Jo

P. O. Box 1074
Bogalusa, La.
August 28, 1954

Dear Cousin:

To introduce myself I will give a list of my ancestors so you can try to figure out how much "kin" we really are. My great-grandmother was Helen Pounds Williams, your mother's sister, and my grandfather was Van Williams, my father is Ernest Russ Williams and I am a Junior. Not much "kin" are we?

I have made references of you in several write-ups in the Bogalusa paper so I thought that I would get around to finding out a little more about you. I found you listed in the "Who's Who" so I have learned more about you than you can imagine. I am trying to complete our family lineage- going over every angle to get bits of information. There are no actual records here now so that makes my work much harder. I was wondering if you ever saw the sister of your mother while you were living in Texas. Her name was Sophia Jenkins. She left this part of the country with her husband and located in Texas. I have no records on her life but I would like to find some information and records of her if at all possible. I also want your mother's birth and death dates for the family "tree" and the dates of your brother's and your births.

I am also trying to get pictures of all the sisters in the Pounds line but I have only half of them. I was wondering if your mother would have had pictures of Uncle Steve and Miriam (Myra) Poole or Aunt Sophia? I have pictures of the

rest. Those two didn't leave one here of themselves. I would like to have a picture of you also for the file on the Pounds family for I will some day let the Historical Association here in Washington Parish use it so I would like for your picture to be in it.

Would appreciate hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Your relative,

Russ Williams Jr.

Russ Williams, Jr.

August 29, 1954

Dear Aunt Alma and Uncle Kirby,

Well, here we are still down at the Bay. This is the 2nd week of Daddy's vacation. He hasn't gotten too many shrimps. Poor thing, it seems as though he really is jinxed when it comes to getting seafood. He's gotten about 15 pts. He went home yesterday and put them in the deep-freeze.

I've got Bijie down here with me. They were transferred to Tomball. Isn't that horrible?

Guess what? I've been going with an "Aggie". His name is Eddie Walton. He was working in the Gulf gang at Thompsons and I met him at church. His home is at Tannehill and that's near Anahuac. Isn't that a coincidence? He went home yesterday, but he's going to write and take me to a football game. That is, if my parents will let me go, you

know them.

Mother met you all's half-brother, Charlie Folsom. He lives down here at Bacliff. He's a retired veterinarian. (horse doctor since my spelling is pretty poor) The people really think a lot of him. He goes to the Quaker Church. That's where we met him.

I got a terrible sunburn. In fact my back blistered and it has started peeling today. I slept on my stomach from Monday until last night.

We've finally gotten our church air-conditioned. Anyway, the heating part will be ready for winter.

We're having a wonderful time. You all would enjoy it here too.

Bye now. See you all in November.

Love,

Mary Jo and everyone else.

September 8, 1954

Dearest Folks:

Are we in a whirl! Groups out here tonight, all day Friday and evening, Sunday afternoo n and evening, Tuesday all day, Saturday all day, Sunday afternoon and evening. On Sunday night or Monday bright and early we start for Phoenix, Tucson, El Paso and Carlsbad NM, on to western Colorado, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New York, Virginia, Florida, Alabama and Texas. That is we leave on the 19th or 20th, and get back about November 18th.

I had a wonderful experience at the national youth conference of the Church of the Brethren at Anderson, Indiana, with 2,500 delegates. I had five addresses. Sold $750 books and pamphlets. One of the most fruitful experiences of my life. The train trip tired me out but I have receovered.

On the way had a good visit with Sherwood and Louise Eddy. They met me at St Louis, and after a night in Jacksonville took me to Matoon for the train east. At 83 he is an amazing person. We had a most affectionate visit.

From Friday to Monday mother and I were at a Methodist youth conference in the mountains at Wrightwood beyond Cajon pass out of San Bernadino. The altitude affected us some but not seriously - 6,000 feet.

The trip should not be too strenuous. The only time we will have sustained driving will be the three days from Denver to Jackson, Michigan. Am to speak only once per day. Will get a lot of sleep. Expect to have five days with the folks in Houston and Thompsons. Will be scheduled for about 35 days of speaking at $40 per day, and we take care of all expenses, about $15 per day. By November first we expect to have all bills paid, including the car payments, except the real estate loan and the loan on life insurance.

Kisses for Mark, Barbie and Wendy,

Oct 14

Dear Folks.—

How's it going? O.K. I hope. Everyone here is running around like mad, as usual—except me—I'm the lazy one. However, I have started going in Mon. morning with Betty & a couple of the other wives. I worked in the finance office the first time—but will work in Walt's section mostly hereafter. Have been in 3 times so far. Not doing anything in particular—just odd jobs the staff never gets around to mostly. However—it's fun—and maybe I'll know a bit more about what Walt's doing now.

Judy loves High School - however she discovered she was rather bored with one course - Junior business training - so we arranged for her to drop it. I think she's not so set on quitting after high school now. She's discovering she has some brains, and the work isn't so hard after all. Walt had a nice talk with her counselor. She's been going up at 8 - an hour early - for a week now, to get extra credit and get on the girls volleyball team. Which is fine except we have to drive her since the 8:00 bus is full.

Too bad you couldn't manage to see John + Marge when you're so close.

Love - Mary

Here's a few photo shots to show family - give them my love - I'll want these back - | Tues -

Dear Folks -

Heard from Marie that you'd been sick, Dad - Sure sorry to hear it - and hope you're better by now.

Had big week-end here. Judy's Birthday lingered, at least in celebration - She liked the blouse & skirt very much - and I'll only have to take up hem a little. Fits fine otherwise. The blouse she thought very cute - however I'll have to move buttons on that a bit. She's a big girl now, mom! I think I can just manage it tho. She loves the watch we got her - using part of Sunny's check to her - plus ours. A nice gold - Swiss wrist watch. ? jewel. Then David,

her heavy boy-friend got her an expandable gold band for it - so she was really thrilled. Sandy had a party for her after the football game Fri. night - got a blouse & couple of bracelets there - and David had a party sat - of the meeting group. To top everything - Walt had to be away with the car - taking Wilfred Wellock around, so his new secretary Helen Blyn very nicely loaned us her 2nd car to use to get Judy around. It's a Mercury Convertible '49 - so did Judy love that. Top down even at midnight! I must say that spoiled me for having a 2nd car. It would be wonderful - however I can see how the gas bill would mount up!

Watts going like a house afire - but doing OK. He's home a bit this am - then were off to vote. See you before long

Love Mary

Judy is on Vocal & Partisan in politics - you should hear her organ! just like her Dad!

Oct 26, 1954

Hi Folks —

I'll use pink paper so you can tell it is personal mail. I've been thinking about you, just too lazy to do anything about it.

We are supposed to get a norther

but so far it has just been too hot for words. And I don't mean warm. I wonder if I'll be so lazy when cold weather gets here. Probably sit by the stove and shiver.

Sis in her last year at High school. Has temporary typing job trying to make her some money to spend on Spanish Club trip to Mexico around Thanksgiving holidays. See you soon I hope

Phone - Richmond, Montrose 2-2972 "Johnnie"

Oct 9 1954

Dear Folks.

We are sorry to be so slow in writing and really have no excuse, perhaps we can do better in the future. I'm glad to hear you are having such a colorful trip, I'd like to see Colorado in the fall.

We sent the check for Sept and Oct to Marie about the first, so all is clear there.

Wendy started to Kindergarten four weeks ago and is now and old hand at it. Ernie is in a car pool with 3 other mothers and has to make

③ a long way to go

I built a rail fence across the back of the lawn from old railroad ties purchased for $.25 each and it really will make a striking effect when we get plants and shrubs in front of it.

Jack is still not able to walk, but goes around things like a crab. He's a good baby and sleeps like a log. We haven't weighed him lately but he must come in pretty close to 25 lb, what a moose!

Giles seems to be doing O.K. and every they seem to be under control, I hope

② one trip a day every other week. The session is in the afternoon so consequently nothing else gets done during that week. The school is ten miles away, but we think it is worth it. (and).

My school enrollment is up and my classes are getting larger each year, but I can still handle it.

I did not succeed in elimenating any coaching during the fall and am helping in football again. Some day maybe!

We furnished up quite a bit of the house during the summer but still have

it keeps up. I've asked Mr Short about him a couple times but he says it's too soon to tell much.

We have not had any rain yet but expect it in a few days.

as ever

Fay

Best wishes for 1955
from
Margaret and Harold
with two new members of our family
Jo Ann Faust Gray, Bill's wife,
and
Ralph Edward Hillman, Jean's husband

May the
New Year
bring you every
happiness

Dear Alma + Kirby:
your patience and persistence
in interpreting Christian
values is helpful to
us who love
Christmas.
Peter + Jim

Murphys, California
December 1954

Dear friends,

Our fourth Christmas in Murphys finds us, as last year, with two lively children and two lively parishes.

Cathy, at 3½, lives in a world filled with toy animals and dolls to be taken care of, neighborhood friends to be played with or to be mad at, stories of good creatures and bad creatures, and vast questions about time, space, death, and God ("Why did God make big bad wolves?"). David, at 15 months, is a beguiling child with sensitive, thoughtful ways; a fine sense of humor - and, for all we can tell, an eager ear for music. Sometime in March they will have the excitement of welcoming a new brother or sister into the circle.

The high point of our year was Bill's month in Chicago and Evanston in August for the World Council of Churches Assembly. He heard lectures for two weeks delivered by several world church leaders, and then was a visitor to the Council sessions themselves. To share in the sense of a world-wide Christian community was a high privilege; he did his best to communicate the excitement of it to the rest of the family, vacationing in Southern California, and to church and youth groups this fall.

The work shared with Bruce MacKenzie in Angels and Murphys this year has been a rewarding one, particularly the work with young people. The churches are stable and growing. Nevertheless, we feel called now to move on, and have decided (barring unforeseen obstacles) on a radical move: to Utrecht, Holland, where Bill will begin work on a doctorate next fall. We feel attracted to the rich tradition of study that Europe offers, and Utrecht, with a superb faculty, is in the middle of all the cross-currents of theological thinking. We will share the news with the churches in January: meanwhile, come and visit us in the next few months!

There is a mystery, and a delight, and a naivete to Christmas which is hard for us, sometimes, to recapture. We do it through the eyes of a child, or through the words of an old carol. Here, in translation, are two verses out of many of a carol we love from Poitou, in France, now four centuries old, the song of a peasant at Christmas:

"Let us sing Noel with all our hearts:
Noel, Noel, 'tis a great festival;
Noel, Noel, 'tis a great festival.

In truth I heard it, I really did, at my Uncle Geoffrey's,
That someday there will come a great Nobleman,
a Lord greater than the King:
All knowing, all-able, all-willing,
to make all men virtuous;
Quiet! - go - there he is - see him,
God, the Son of Mariette.

A little man, carrying a saw, with a pointed hat,
really believes that it is Isaiah who spoke of the babe:
So shy, so merry, so tender,
giving delight to all men;
Quiet! - go - there he is - see him,
God, the Son of Mariette."

Jean and Bill
Cathy and David Holladay

1116 North Hester Street
Stillwater, Oklahoma
Christmas, 1954

Dear Friends,

Since I last sent you a card, I have had a stroke and have come here to Stillwater where Richard and his family live.

Until the attack came in the middle of April, I was living in Whittier as usual in my house. I was in the hospital in Whittier for a month and then when I was able to travel, Richard brought me to Stillwater where I am staying in a fine nursing home.

I am in good general health now and am continuing to improve For the most part I take care of myself, even though I am confined to my bed and wheel chair. I can read and write by myself now and am embroidering some.

I enjoy seeing Richard and Leona and my two grandsons, but I miss my friends and wish I would see you all. Please continue to write to me and I will answer your letters. Your friendship means so much to me.

With best wishes for the Season,

Yours lovingly,

THAE

Dear Friends,

Thinking that you would like to have a little more detail about my Mother's condition I am adding a postscript to my Mother's note.

The cerebral hemorrhage which she had last April has taken a heavy toll of my Mother's previously keen mind. She has difficulty now in remembering things or in concentrating for more than a short time. We can be thankful that the stroke did not leave her severly paralyzed nor did it impair her senses. The damage to her higher nerve centers has been light enough so that she can still find many activities that interest her, even though she is confined to bed and wheelchair and needs constant care.

Your frequent letters are a continuing source of inspiration and happiness to her and I hope that you will write to her as often as you can and will understand the brevity of her notes to you.

With every good wish for the Christmas season,

Yours,

Dick

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King!"

Dear Dr. Page,

I am one of the Chapman students who came to your home a few weeks ago; I want to express my deep gratitude for your hospitality and to tell you that it was, for me, a deep and rich experience which I shall never, ever forget.

With my deep regards,

KHT

May every happiness
be yours at this
Christmas season.

Kent Tiedeman

The Pier - i - Odd - ical

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Volume XVlll
Christmas, 1954

Dear Friends:

Yes, new address but not where you thot it would be. Same old House of Piers under a new numbering system. We are still in the country but use the above address.

A good old Friend down Houston way, one Homer Hewett, who carried off all the honors when we graduated from the University of Nebraska - sole reason Stan didn't get any -- wrote: "Somehow I expect the letter for Christmas 1954 to be from Casa de Manana...Hope I prove a prophet and not a loss." Maybe he read the book titled "The Profits of Religion" and got his spelling or his economics mixed, but in any case due to a matter mixed up with "profit and loss" we didn't go to the Casa, much to our regret. U C they raised rates there before we could sell this place at a "profit" so we take the "loss" in spite of the "Prophet," and here we still are tho as you'll soon see not so still after all.

The big story for this issue is about Alaska and some Piers. On September 1st stood 2 Piers on Pier 42 in Seattle. Piers "Cover the waterfront" you know. They had stood on piers before, just wishing. (One exception Stan's trip to Europe in '22.) This time, by gum, they got aboard the Aleutian, flagship of the Alaska Steam ship Co. and spent 6 easy-going, luxurious days viewing some of the world's most magnificent scenery of the famous Inland Passage. The food was wonderful and the folks were fine. One night the loud speaker announced: "We have on board Mr. and Mrs. Stan Pier, who are celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary," and the steward brot in a beautiful cake with candles and the passengers all ganged around.

We had decided to make the break and go while we could still see enough to enjoy it. Our consciences twinged a bit as we thot of the millions who never can have the great privilege of seeing their beautiful world--e.g. the 12,000,000 blind in the world or the just plain under-privileged.

First port of call, Ketchikan, "the Big Stink," so named by the Indians because of the stench caused by salmon dying at the falls in the river. A modern fish ladder now takes care of that. Remember "Seward's Folly?" Alaska cost us $7,200,000. The salmon catch at Ketchikan alone was over $7,000,000 in '54, not to mention all the other millions up the coast, mines, mills, etc. A new $46,000,000 pulp mill is going in there which we suspect will again justify the Indians' name for the place.

A book or two could be written about totem poles at Ketchikan and Wrangel, Anchorage, Fairbanks and the vast military establishments, Glaciers, the Alaska Railroads and other fascinating subjects, but we can touch only the high spots.

Mt. McKinley National Park is good medicine for Californians. Mt. McKinley towers grandly 20,300 feet, over a mile above Whitney our tallest. Mt. Forraker 17,000. We saw -- from a safe distance- 3 whopping old Toklat grizzlies and their 5 half-grown cubs, some 40 of the notable Dall white sheep, several caribou, ptarmigan, the fat little Parka squirrel, snowshoe hares, but nary a moose. "Moose-along" Wilson, grad. of O.U., our bus driver, to explain a sudden stop said:"I don't like to split hares." As usual the Park Service was fine. We loved their 13 handsome, friendly huskies, a hard working lot in winter.

The best thing in Fairbanks is the University of Alaska with its museum full of archeological and historical items of importance. A pair of Mastodon tusks, 13 ft. long and weighing 300 lbs each intrigues the imagination. Gold dredging, the mighty Yukon River, and vast military preparations all cause wonderment.

We have our "certificates" for crossing the Arctic Circle on board a plane of the Wien Airlines to Kotzebue on the Arctic Sea. This village about 700 Eskimos and 100 whites was the most fascinating part of the trip. In the Kotzebue Grill was a sign: "If you can't smell it we ain't got it." Tasty sourdough pancakes and reindeer meat were served by Eskimo waitresses. At the school we saw mostly Eskimo kids and a few whites, all smart. But the Eskimo dances were "terrific"--must be seen and heard to be understood and appreciated. The Friends' Mission impressed us too. So did the sobriety of the place -- no saloons in marked contrast to all other places we visited. Nome, on the 2nd day of this trip, a town of 20,000, in gold days is now 2,000, about ½ Eskimo, ½ white. We saw the King Island Eskimos at work carving Ivory. (See Geographic, Jan.'54 for story of these remarkable people.)

From Fairbanks to Whitehorse, Yukon, via Pan American Super-6 Clipper we saw the meandering Yukon River and vast wilderness spread out 18,000 feet below. Whitehorse now has only gold and tourists. A few miles on the new Alcan Highway brought us to Miles Canyon and the rapids, where many a gold-rusher met his fate. Down the narrow guage White Pass and Yukon R.R. is some of the world's most marvelous scenery. Skagway, "Home of the North Wind," another beautiful spot was the starting point of the gold rush of '97, 20,000 people then, now only 750 and abandoned buildings. Taking off by land at Skagway our amphibious plane of Alaska Coastal Airways flew low giving us a magnificent view of mountains, Lynn Canal and some 26 glaciers oozing into it. We slid in on the water of the bay at Juneau. We think we would like to live in this Capital City with fairly mild climate and so much of beauty and interest. The Mendenhall Glacier is outstanding, 80' thick, 3 miles wide, 17 miles long, receding 151 inches a year, a magnificent sight.

We discussed Statehood with a number of people. Our sight-seeing bus driver in Anchorage and especially the one in Fairbanks -- Son of a Methodist missionary - put up a good argument. They said the big companies, canneries, mining interests, etc. propagandize against it. They say "We aren't ready for it." Fact is there is no property tax in Alaska and under Statehood they would have such a tax. Both pointed out that we fought a war over "taxation without representation." When put to a vote the people voted overwhelmingly for Statehood. Were the colonies ready for it in '76? Was every territory "ready?" (Read Beard: "A short History of the U.S.") This isn't all the pro and con but we returned convinced that we should let the people of Alaska make their own mistakes and have a voice in their own destiny. With a Democratic landslide in Alaska and Hawaii slightly Democratic and the Dems in control of Congress will that put 2 more stars in the flag in '55?

From Juneau, aboard the P.A.A. Clipper we rode "high, wide and handsome." There were 89 passengers, mostly students going to the University of Washington, which gives them free tuition. A nice gesture, we think in view of excess profits made by U.S. Companies in Alaska. As we "glid" down to the airport in Seattle we heard over the loud speaker: "On your right you see the Boeing plant which is building us a plane twice the size of this one and will make the trip in half the time." Our time was less than 4 hours at $22 apiece less than by boat, a three day voyage. Passenger service by Alaska S.S. Co. ended this fall. We were on the last voyage of the Aleutian for that Company. How glad we are to have had that wonderful boat trip. Too bad America must travel so fast that they must miss that grand trip thru the Inland Passage. All we saw from 18,000 up was the fog below.

Back home the cooperative housekeeping proceeds. We invested in a fine set of

stainless steel cooking ware and Stan does some of the cooking. No Causualties yet. We like the waterless, low heat method - more nutricious, healthful, economical. Any hunk of low priced meat comes out a tasty, tender roast. Tastes even better than expensive steaks (where our money used to go.) Bertha, now 106 lbs, up 6%, due partly to a good doctor, perhaps somewhat to the Alaska trip, or who can deny it may be Stan's cooking? Confidentially, we may yet take on that housekeeper.

Phyllis started on her Ph D. at University of Indiana this summer, "Made all A's too." Back at Valdosta she is now Asst. Professor in the English Dep't. She may teach at Indiana or possibly Boston next summer and continue her studies. Hilary, 15, and Julian, 13, seem to advance normally. We even got a letter from Julie this year. Hilary continues to write interestinly, asking questions hard to answer.

Paradise, haven for the retired, has a high percentage of senior citizens. In the Social Action Committee, Congregational Church, we studied the problems of aging last year. The Paradise Welfare Council brot in a State official who discussed the matter with a Steering Committee. We planned. In March a one day "Work Shop" was held with 200 attendance. Results: A "Senior Citizens Association" with a constitution and its own Board of Directors. Stan was on the Steering Committee and is now Chairman of the Membership Committee, and on the Board. Memberships, now 253, is growing. We have the beginnings of a program, monthly bulletin, hold bi-weekly meetings with pot-luck dinners--good attendance. Our big hopes for the future: "Purpose: To sponsor, promote, or organize interests and activities of Senior Citizens in Paradise and to integrate this program into the Welfare of the community."

Most of us are interested in the World Council of Churches Assembly held in Evanston last August. One of our most satisfying experiences this year stemmed from that significant event. Realizing that most of the smaller churches would not get adequate reporting, Roy McCullough -- old Friend since '20 in Student Y work, now retired here -- hitch-hiked "on Faith" to that meeting. Stan acted as Secretary of a "Volunteer Committee on Report," 19 pastors and laymen in this area. We recommended him by letter to churches and he has given a lot of good messages to churches and other groups. This cooperative effort seems to have made a contribution toward "Ecumenicity" among churches and people who believe in the reality of the Council theme: "Christ, the Hope of the World."

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
Forgive our feverish ways;
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
In purer lives thy service find,
In deeper reverence praise.

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of thy peace.

First and third verses of "Rest" by John Greenleaf Whittier.
(Bertha's distant relative.)

These lines express our wish for our dear friends and ourselves at this Christmas Season, yes, with all the "strain and stress" of these desperate times,

Sincerely,

Bertha & Stan Pier

Dear Kirby & Mrs K; —
I fear this rather "small

over

town stuff" for such a busy man doing so much good in the world. We'll send it for what it's worth.

"God ~~bless~~ bless us everyone this Christmas & thru '55.

Sincerely
Stan

Kitty May a double
portion of God's Christmas
Gift and spirit be with
you this season
Sherwood

Christmas Greetings
and Best Wishes
for the New Year

Louise and Sherwood Eddy

Dear Kirby, I was away when the delicious pears and limes came, thus my delay in answering your generous thoughtfulness. They came in good condition. Thank you, too, for your good letter and the books on

705
Brownie

prayer you sent. I am glad to have them and I know you're cutting down on some of your activities. Your life and works are precious to us and this country.

'Tis not enough that Christ was born
Beneath the star that shone,
And earth was set that holy morn
Within a golden zone.
He must be born within the heart,
Before He finds His throne,
And brings the day of love and good,
The reign of Christ-like brotherhood.
—Mary T. Lathrop

WISHING YOU

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

For Alma and you,
Yours in the Fellowship -
Margaret

2196 Navarro Avenue
Altadena, California
~~February~~, 1954
April 18

Dear Kirby and Alma:

Did you miss something at Christmas time--like a message from me, for instance? Here is a belated one, with best wishes for all seasons of the year. It was good to hear from so many of you.

Compared with 1952, the past year has been rather uneventful for me. My work with the American Friends Service Committee continues to be interesting, and I have enjoyed my small share in making its program possible. We have felt close to the expanding work of Friends in Korea as many members of the Unit have stopped here on their way. We particularly enjoyed having five people from England with us for a week last October.

My travels have not taken me outside California in the past year. I've been to San Diego a couple of times, and to Berkeley a few more to visit my sister Virginia and her family. I've gained one nephew and one niece during 1953. Dorothy, in Sacramento, had a second son in July; and Virginia's Lisa was born in January. Several months later Virginia and Otto were told that the baby had Mongoloid characteristics, and now it is quite evident. For the sake of their other four lovely children, and for the sake of Lisa herself, she is now on the waiting list of a home for mentally handicapped children. The emotional strain of facing this situation has been very difficult for us all, particularly for Lisa's parents.

Thanksgiving weekend I concentrated on the final stage of cleaning out our garage. This has been a major undertaking which unearthed some surprising "treasures," such as a large box of things which Grandmother Lewis brought from Japan and China 50 years ago, and items my father brought from the Philippines about the same time. There were relics from South Dakota, and from the homes of various aunts and uncles no longer with us--and quantities of books! We still have three small trunks of family letters to wade through, some of them going back to the time before postage stamps were used.

All this activity is in preparation for a car which Aunt Alice, with whom I live, is planning to buy in the near future. She has decided she wants to see a few things this summer, with me as chauffeur. The main purpose of the trip is to attend the 60th anniversary of her college graduation in Oskaloosa, Iowa. Present plans are to visit relatives in Oklahoma en route to Iowa, then to my old home town in South Dakota, look over the family's holdings near Moses Lake, Washington, and down the Coast to home again.

Rather than join the Easter Parade (from which I would probably be immediately eliminated) I decided to work on my "Christmas" letters. I mimeographed them in February with the best of intentions!

I thought I was pretty smart to be driving a car again, after depending on undependable public transportation for 5½ years, when up comes Marie with a brand new car. I know she really needs it so I don't envy her too much.

Perhaps Marie has told you about the plans for our trip. We aim to leave the middle of May and get back late in June. I also hope Marie has told you about how much we are still appreciating all that jam and jelly you sent over. We were glad to get rid of all those jars, and never dreamed of having a "return" like that. Thanks so much.

Love,

Helen Perkins

Phillips University
Enid, Oklahoma
March 13, 1954

Arthur Lloyd - Mark Stephen

Dear Friends: This greeting is late for Christmas, but it is a happy greeting, espically since A. E. was able to return to his duties at Phillips University part time March first.

A coronary thrombosis caught up with him December 8th at Oklahoma City. After four weeks at Wesley Hospital and ten days at Dr. Arthur F's residence, we returned to Enid January 16th.

Speaking of Arthur F. At the left is a picture of the sons of Arthur and Gertrude (Nicholson). Both are Okies and scamps of the first order. Arty Lloyd will be three June 13th. Marky was a year old February 17th. They live at 704 East Park. Arthur F. is with the Morrison Clinic. (Internal Medicine)

Linda Carolyn - Amy Susan

These daughters of Sheldon E. and Dorothy (Trueblood) live in Dewey, Oklahoma (329 South Ponca St.). However, their daddy works for Phillips 66 at Bartlesville (Research Department).

The girls have acquired the title "Monkey-doodles". Linda is a Michigander and will be three March 21st. Amy Susan an Okie, will be a year old May 13th.

James H. is now practicing medicine at Nowata Oklahoma. He and Janice (Thrower) are the parents of Elaine and Ricky. They wanted to sample both boys and girls. Ricky was a year old November 4th. And Elaine will be a year old come November 14, 1954. They are Okies and live at 318 South Locust.

Each of these grand-children is just a little more precious than any other one. It is not necessary to tell you, that along with President and Mrs. Eisenhower, and millions of other grand-parents that Ivy F and Arthur E. desire above all else a just and durable peace, now so that all grand-children will have an opportunity to live normally in a Christian civilization.

Janice Elaine - James Richard

We had a wonderful trip this summer going to and from our International Convention of the Christian Churches at Portland Oregon. We went a Northern route-Yellowstone, Grand Coulee, Mt. Ranier and returned by Red Wood forest, Yosemite Grand Canyon, Carlsbad etc.

Thanks so much for the Christmas card, the get-well cards, and especially for your concern and your prayers. They all helped tremendously. May God guide you and richly bless you all.

Most sincerely yours,
Ivy F. + Arthur E
The Arthur E. Elliotts

Christmas Greetings

Box 1646, Parker, Arizona
December 22, 1954

TO MY FRIENDS, OLD AND NEW

How I delight in Christmas! It is the one day in the year when we go laughing all the day long. We say Merry Christmas to all who pass the threshold of our door and even those we do not know receive at least a little love. It is the season we forgive those who have wronged us, forget injustices we've suffered, try to live and love and give our best. It's the one day we dare to be like Jesus.

And, it's the one period of the year we seem to find (from somewhere) enough time to renew old acquaintanceships even if only with a greeting card. I do enjoy your annual How-Do-You-Do, and Best-Wishes-To-You. I am sincerely interested to learn all about yours, and you. Humbly assuming you're interested in news about me, I'll be very personal, myself, now.

I am serving a church over on the Colorado River. It is actually the first real glimmer of opportunity in ten years which I have had in the ministry. Just a decade ago I sustained my first coronary thrombosis which knocked me into a cocked hat. During this period, certainly rivers of waters have passed under the bridges. But, they have been "refining fire" too, I believe. Be all that as it may, now, they're passed forever.

My daughters are mothers. Katie Belle's husband, Harry K., is scheduled to complete his training at Yale Medical College this spring. He has made a fine record at this exceptionally fine institution and plans to intern in California. That means I'll get to see little Jessica Gail their daughter of 1-1/2 years. Doctors like Harry have wonderful opportunity for service to those in physical need, don't they? The first child of Bob and Beth, a son, Mark Alexander, discovered America a couple of months ago. Bob will be out of the Army in March. The couple plan to return from the Monterey area to Santa Cruz where Bob's old position awaits him in the office of a distinguished firm of attorneys. Bob's social sensitivity will likely lead him to exhibit his great intelligence, sympathy and courage in applying law in human services. As artist-designer and secretary, Jeanne has come into her own tempermentally-wise. Harry P. is manager of the Scandinavian Art Metal company in Pasadena and his father and he are wonderful craftsmen turning out exquisite art metal work for the sophisticated tastes of the elite in Southern California. They have two darling little tots, Anna Lisa and Karin Margreta, three, and one years of age, respectively.

As you would imagine I spend vacation time at Monte Koinonia. It is so beautiful! Nothing makes me much happier than to have my friends with me as guests in this mountain majesty. Can't you come up next summer? However, I must qualify this invitation, somewhat. For there are plans elsewhere and otherwise which may take me to the nearby dessert for part of my vacation. Moreover, it takes fully two weeks to open up and to close up the camp.

In respect to my beloved little parish, things seem to be progressing. We have just about underwritten a current expense budget, and will have paid about 2/3 of our conference assessments for benevolences by the first half of the ecclesiastical year. Heartiest congratulations to you who are the members and friends of the church who have made this possible! Last Sunday, I ventured to be true to my commission and preach on the pre-eminence of the Ideal. If it should be printed, would you like a copy of the sermon? Let me divulge a secret. Some of our officials are talking about our assuring responsibility for a refugee family coming to America. Wouldn't that be fun? Our Junior League is sponsoring a peace exhibit this winter, and starting a Pen Pal's Club so as to facilitate correspondence with children in other countries, in the interest of international understanding and good will. Strange, isn't it, how the powers-that-be blaze, and pass away, while the little peasant girl's son, whom the Caesars ever seek to slay, keeps on heralding the day of plenty, peace and freedom the world over, every Christmas? Some day, His star will surely guide the deluded defenders of hate and fear, want and war, to Love and Security, and Happiness.

A blessed Christmas to you! To those of my friends not residing in Parker, may I add: I wish you would write to me, soon?

Affectionately, your brother,

Gross

Gross W. Alexander, Minister

Enclosed:
Last Sunday's Bulletin

(159)

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[n.d., 1954?]

Dear Mrs. Page:-

Greetings to you! We who were at the Retreat a week ago are grateful to you for your hospitality expressed especially in all the effort you put forth to prepare such a good luncheon for us. We were heartened by the fellowship both on the spiritual and physical plane.

We hope to be better children in God's family because of the day in your home.

Cordially Alice Finsley

Wed. morning

Dear Kirby & Alice:

Just a hasty note to enclose in this letter to let you know we will have run out of postage money by the time you receive this.

I packed books for 2 hours again last night. I figure I will be half through with them tonight (or more).

When do you want me to resume shipments of books to you? Are you having the ~~[illegible]~~ new book sent directly to you?

Hope all is well with you.

Love
Marie.

KIRBY PAGE
POST OFFICE BOX 247
LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA

Tues Aug
at 7

Hello Folks! -
foggy and cool - afternoons
nice -
Books got here Sat Aug
so made copy as can be
only the 2 deposits so far
#1 248.00 - #2 303.00 -
Will make another Fri late
before Bank closes at 6 -
100.00 from Eddy here and will
be some small checks -
not much news - pers planned
Keys are posted -
More later
Love
Les 2

Dear Folks.

Keeping plenty busy these days both at home and the office.

Margaret and Jesse are coming over and spend a few days with us. He received his discharge a week ago today, the is off from work until after November 1, they gave her ten extra days besides her vacation.

Love

Marie.

Tues am
at 8

KIRBY PAGE
POST OFFICE BOX 247
LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA

Hello Folks! –

Maine busted her plate Sat night eating chicken – Dr G – out of town – so for nothing done – We are going down now in few minutes and see what other Dentist can do –

Folks stick here until Thurs – they went to Santa Barbara yesterday.

Books for you are gone – Hope to get enough more 3.00 checks this am so can have 60.00 for deposit – and then deposit my check & get some money We are really broke –

— over –

Only 3 deposits so far -
Alma be sure & eat lots
of shrimps - fish & crabs -
See if you both cant
rest & relax few days
before you start home -
And tell em all Hello -
Marie are worked down -
tired & sleepy -
Everything under control here
your letters not coming
so often -
Hope Both are OK -
Love
Just us 2

Have not sent any
"How to Pray" to Alabama
or to Houston. Have about
20 copies left. You had better
order some!
Marie.

Friday morning.

Dear Folks:

Just a hasty note to find out where the last place you sent book to. Where do you want me to start sending again?

No word about the new book. Sure do hope it arrives on hot. as it will be much easier to get up to the hilltop on that day.

Hope the trip has been O.K. so far. Hope it wasn't too hot going over to Arizona.

Much love

Marie

KIRBY PAGE
POST OFFICE BOX 247
LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA

Thurs Am
at 7^10

Hello Folks! -
Cool and foggy this Am
started Water at Levines
Marie in billiard room
getting more books to go
off to you -
Card Tuesday stating books
had not been shipped yet -
No checks yet from Any one
So went down yesterday Am
and got 100^00 for 30 days
from Bank -
Glad trip going good and
both are OK - putting the Water
on everything - Keep letters Coming
Love, Just us 2 -

Sat am.
at 9 10

KIRBY PAGE
POST OFFICE BOX 247
LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA

Hello Folks! -
your first letter Came
yesterday - Thanks -
No Books - No check
No nuttin -
Trees & Berries are watered
Did the poinsettias this am
Maine now filling orders
to go off this am -
Sent 1000 flyers to
Greensboro - Express 4 64 ouch
Im doing pretty good -
Maine are tired out -
over

Go get breakfast now &
then to Tony —
Glad both OK & books
going good —
More later — Keep
us posted —
Love
P.L.

KIRBY PAGE
POST OFFICE BOX 247
LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA

Sunday Aug
at 9 -

Hello Folks! -

Cool & cloudy now - The afternoons have been nice -

We will stay home today gives Marie little chance to say meeting last night in whittier

She is in bread room now getting books ready to go off to you in the morning.

No checks - No books no nothing yet -

Jess is back - now at Fit Ord - Margaret happy -

Hope both are OK -

Keep us posted -

Love, as ever

Tues am
at 11
Scribbles from Marie

Hello Folks! -

Well We are still here - Weather fine - Had Couple nice rains since We arrived -

I haven't done any good at all - High altitude bothering me yet - first year Asthma has been bad -

Bill & Madge drove us over to Hawthorne, Neo - Sat afternoon - Had nice turkey Dinner there - Home again at 11 - 150 mi trip -

Sunday morning discovered Cook & Wife pulled out during the night -

We sent George limit down
by fellow from Pomona.
Maine got her limit
Thurs - Me 4 Wed
She got 9 - Friday 9
finally got more than
She did -

Sure love to get out
and work for them,
but it sure is fun.
We had one trout dinner
so far - Maybe again tonight
Hope you are not to hot
trees were need water this week
Seeing lots of old friends
who are up here now -

So to keep things going
until another cook
gets here Maine has
been doing the cooking
last 3 days - me - Washing
dishes - Waitress already
here working.
Anyway just closed up
for the day - the new
cook can open up in
morning - We are on
vacation again - Hurrah
So haven't fished any
since Friday - got to get
busy - Wind blowing now

Wise try and bring home a limit for us to use & One to give away. Levine Jim - Berings & Walt - Wise send more to George as we can. Write when you can. Wise let Marie finish at bottom - Love,

P.L.

Marie laying down resting now. So Wise get this over so can go off today

Thurs.

Dear Alma & Kirby

Hope this reaches you Saturday. I've been up to my ears for the past week preparing for a Baby Shower.

Most happy you'll be coming Monday nite.!!

Alma we'd like to have the things you mentioned in a previous letter — the 3 geraniums Bushes, the Holly & roses.

However — just in case you should come earlier — or we should be unexpectedly delayed we shall leave the key to the front door behind the front step (lower step)

See you soon

Love

Essie

The dahlias you brought are doing nicely.

Having a hard time with the variegated Ivy. Only few living. Have heard that it too hot here in full sun — I'm sure that must be it.

We have had very little real heat this summer. Just now it delightful. 70° in house in mid-morning.

Incidentally — we will be away for weekend. Expect to arrive home Monday afternoon

Mt. Hollywood Congregational Church
ALLAN A. HUNTER, MINISTER
PROSPECT AVENUE AND RODNEY DRIVE
NORMANDY 0303 LOS ANGELES 27, CALIF.

friday

Dear Kirby and Alma

Tonight after a wedding we leave for Tuolomne Meadows and we won't be able to get back till saturday night sept 11 (it's about the only time off for E and me except three days earlier in the summer), so we shall have to miss Friday 10 for which I am really sorry for I had hoped to get into the current of your emphasis at the retreats and this seemed the best chance . But maybe there'll be another?

The TWO OR THREE TOGETHER book by Freer and Hall is the best yet in its line and it's a necessary line.

I'm so glad you sent us the autobiography which we shall be studying in the mountains by Dana Stream. I want to have the privilege of writing a word about it for one or two magazines. I still feel that there ought to be some way which may come to you of bringing home what transformation is, (the fact that your background was military means a special demonstration of the power of human nature to change,- in one generation.) Of course the problem of not dragging in the family unnecessarily is there. But the point is so interesting and significant that it is worth an effort, it seems to me, to drive home through your own experience the most important truth of our faith which is that if any man gets into the magnetic field of Christ's spirit he becomes a new person.

You stand among us , Kirby (and this goes for Alma for increasingly we think of you together) as a completely dependable re-minder like Fujiyama does for the Japanese, of what we cherish and what is there to challenge us. It is the steadiness, the consistency and the drive of your commitment that appeals to us. There are two kinds of appeal. Vincent appeal and Kirby appeal. Some of us prefer the latter. It will have the last word, we feel.

Blessings

Allan

Dear Mrs. Page,

I talked to you just a few minutes ago on the phone.

I am enclosing $1.00 for 2 pamphlets, "How To Pray."

The others I will order at a later date.

Thank you.

Mrs. Frank M. Clagg
425 E. Plymouth St.,
Long Beach 5
Calif.

1.00 pd sent.
8-27-54

89 today - Hot Fri Noon

KIRBY PAGE
POST OFFICE BOX 247
LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA

Hello Folks! -

Hope you are both OK and everything going good - Not many letters from you - Hot last 2 days - in the 80s Margaret & Jess Wise be over tonight to spend few days With us - And Sunday Maine is having all her folks out for dinner and the day - Should be about 18 or 20 Hr - Wise bake a ham - Mac Salad and Pot salad - etc - Wise put table up out in yard - Everything Watered good - So dont Worry - More later

Love, us & over

(3)

Oct 15-54

Eddy - 10000
2600
500
300
250
250
250
250
162

145.62

Sat afternoon at 3

Need postage money - 8.58 yesterday and 9.66 today sure adds up -
you left 40.00 postage money 48.50 already + more Monday -
Hope you missed most of the rain + Winds - Books went off this am for 2 fla places -
PL

KIRBY PAGE
POST OFFICE BOX 247
LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA

Fri Am
at 6 45

Hello Pocks! -

All Well - everything OK
Except no Books -
And no letter from you
since last Sat - Hope
everything is alright.
Just finished irrigating
place again - everything
Maine Wine take off 1 hr
early this afternoon & we Wine
go to Bank & make this deposit
Weather good now - 78 today
Not much news -
Keep us posted -
Love
us

Over

KIRBY PAGE
POST OFFICE BOX 247
LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA

the 17.00 you had marked paid on milk bill was for May and the 18.00 check you just sent was for June - so you still have July - Aug & now Sept - the bill you sent in with 18.00 check was dated June 30 you must have the July and Aug bills in check book - anyway I checked his books today with him & total now is around 39.00 so subtract the last check from this total on enclosed bill & it checks

P.L. Roy

KIRBY PAGE
POST OFFICE BOX 247
LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA

Tues - Noon

Were Maine took the plate to the Lab in Whittier and Were get it at 2 this afternoon — they She will go on to office - Meeting there tonight anyway — Works going to Knott Berry Farm for lunch & look see Weather good - Nights cool

now Thurs 5 PM

forgot to mail you this — G — got away at 10 this am Had nice visit — all enjoyed it Maine goes with group to Mountains tomorrow - Sat and Sunday — Been no letter from you since last week

P. L.

Thurs 5^20 PM.

KIRBY PAGE
POST OFFICE BOX 247
LA HABRA, CALIFORNIA

Hello Folks! -

Sorry Kirby you were under the weather - Hope you both are are OK by now -

Marie taking tomorrow off so she can wash - go to Dentist and I can go to Bank and make this deposit

Wonderful Check

Then she has to go to Pomona and we were take dinner with the folks. We were have them here Sunday - Marie has to go to meeting Saturday -

no dull moments for her

Won't be long now -

Hello to all. Love us 2

over

ocean (a wee bit) and even Catalina just this morning.

Everything from the fluorescent cross on the study table to the generosity in letting us live here represents the spirit in which you two live and work and love and serve so many

To Kirby and Alma —

We certainly enjoyed your home — everything about it especially the kindness of Marie and Perry — even Butch — We have had a very fine time in "Southern Cal" So many friends have been so good tous. — Cy —

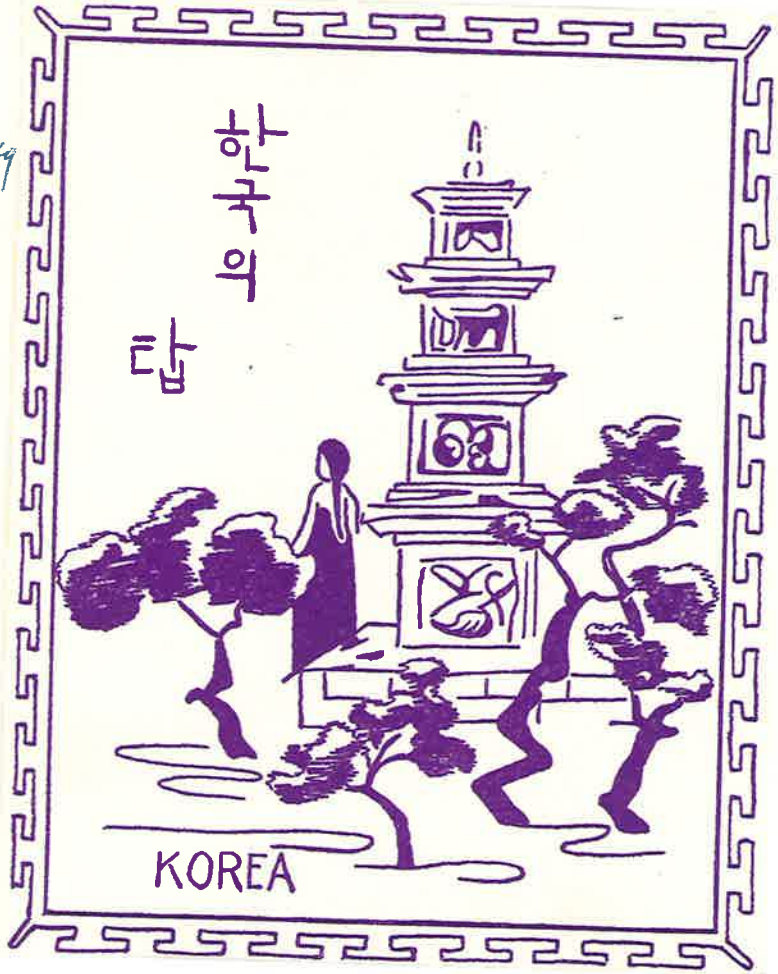
Your home is so wonderful. We have enjoyed the flowers the mountains the

others.

Thank you for making so much joy available to us.

Your friends.

Maude.



Dear Keith & Celina: I am home & looking forward to hearing you with me sometime next week — Wednesday will be our best day for visiting — as Pastor Emeritus will be here Tuesday — & Bob with him — Would you like me to make reservations for lunch with the ministerial group with him Tuesday noon at the Mission Hills Congregational Church — I will see you at your meeting Monday night and we can talk it over —

Best wishes to you both — Olive

74 WEST MARSHALL ROAD
LANSDOWNE, PA.

Friday P.M.

Dear Alma & Kirby

We arrived home this morning at 7:30. Alice and June met us at the station despite of the snow and slippery roads.

The ride on the Daylight train upto San Francisco was marvelous. We engaged our seat with the Mayers. To be sure I got a seat on the vista dome car going thru the Royal Gorge the beauty of which is indescribable. In other words I thoroughly enjoyed my trip every step of the way.

Never can thank you enough for all you did for Ted and me to make our stay in California so delightful and pleasant. Would hear from us again before too long. Lovingly Esther